information received from Coal India Limited, purchase procedures were followed for procurement of Oxygen Concentrators for Central Hospital, Dhanbad under the jurisdiction of Bharat Coking Coal Limited. No Oxygen concentrators have been procured for Jealgora and Loyabad. According to Coal India Limited the purchase proposal was approved by the competent authority as per the delegation of power and the proposal did not require approval of Functional Directors of Bharat Coking Coal Limited.

Promotional drilling to extract lignite

1972. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the result of "Promotional Drilling" taken-up in Mannarqudi and Veeranum area in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is a fact that large quantity of lignite is available in those areas; and;

(c) if so, what are the actions taken to utilise these deposits in commercial line as done in Neyveli by Neyveli Lignite Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) As per information received from Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), a total of about 1165 million tonnes and 17,940 million tonnes of lignite reserves have been assessed in Veeranam Eri and Mannargudi areas of Tamil Nadu respectively through promotional drilling being carried out by MECL.

(c) Exploitation of these reserves will depend on techno-economic considerations after completion of drilling and preparation of geological reports.

Mugoli and other Opencast Projects

1973. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently approved the Mugoli Opencast Project of the Western Coalfields Limited, in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also approved the Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline Underground of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d). The Government have approved the Mugoli Opencast Project of Western Coalfields Ltd. and also the Revised Cost Estimates for Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline Underground project of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. Details of these projects are given below:—

	Capacity (m.t.p.a.)	Cost (Rs. Crores)
Mugoli OCP, WCL	0.80	83.63
RCE for Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline UG, SCCL	0.77	116.53

State Governments proposal for Royalty on Coal

1974. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from State Governments for revision of royalty on coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in this regard?